

**23<sup>rd</sup> December 2023 to 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024**

### **PRESIDENT PAULINE's PONDERINGS**

- Around 80 members, partners, our community PHFs, Bunyip-Garfield Rotary, Drouin Quota, Drouin Lions and Committee for Drouin joined together for a very pleasant and fellowship-filled Christmas Dinner at the Drouin Golf Club.
  - Highlight of the night for me was the Paul Harris Fellow recognition presented to Jean Haughton for her diverse and long-standing contribution to education, the arts and her community. Congratulations and thank you Jean.
  - Another very pleasing moment came when Jess Cottier (Drouin Lions & Indigo Rose) bid \$150 for the polio koala – *no one having correctly guessed that I had named him "Clem"*. So that now totals another nice contribution from our club for the 'End Polio Now' project. Thank you, auctioneer Lois and top bidder Jess.
  - Thank you to Russell for providing our background music and to Brian and others who helped with setup and preparations behind the scenes.



(proud) Hubby Ian, Jean Haughton PHF & Prez



President Pauline, Lois, Jess Cottier & AG Di Harrison



Dvl, Janny with Sharryn under a tree

- Brian and I wish to thank you all for your friendship and involvement and wish you, your families and those with whom you share the Festive Season a safe and most enjoyable time.

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

Between 6/12 & 23/01: Karen Howes, Mark Howes, Jo McKechnie, John Franklin, Keith Pretty, Tim Wills, DvL, Russell Ford, Lynne Davine and Jean Haughton celebrate birthdays. Wedding anniversaries are celebrated by President Pauline & Presidential Consort Brian and, by Peter & Lynda Konjevic.

### **DATES for the DIARY**

**TUESDAY 9<sup>th</sup> January** – Barbeque Get-together in Drouin Civic Park 6.00 for 6.30 pm

**TUESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> January** – Dinner Meeting # 12 at Hong Kong Inn 6.00 for 6.30 pm

**SATURDAY 20<sup>th</sup> January** – Drouin Rotary Craft & Produce Market

**FRIDAY 26<sup>th</sup> January** – *Party in the Park* Australia Day in Civic Park, Drouin

**TUESDAY 30<sup>th</sup> January** – Drouin Secondary College 'Breakfast Club' 8.00 to 9.00 am

### **SERVICE**

**Ambulance Uniform De-badging** - Thank you Keith and Rob Stewart (*initially only coming to the station to return two large boxes of de-badged shirts*) for joining me, three Lions, one CWA lady and one from the sewing group at Warragul Neighbourhood House for another four hours on 14<sup>th</sup> December. Rex returned two large boxes full and took four more full of uniform items for de-badging back home. Thanks Rex and Jill. In 2024 there will be a de-badging effort every **1<sup>st</sup> Thursday** between 10.00 & 2.00 – starting **FEBRUARY**.

**Food Bank Deliveries** – Finished for this calendar year with a really big effort last Friday. Extra goodies for a better Christmas for recipients. No doubt plenty more next year. Thanks Russell and all his stalwart helpers.

**December Market** - A big thank you to all those who did their bit on the 16<sup>th</sup>. I (*Ian Symons*) am told the BBQ crew were flat out. A special thanks to John Tricarico, Mike Kelleher and David Veale who made sure things came together in my absence.

It was great to have some new stallholders attend: a fresh berry purveyor, Fergy's Bakery and Gomarthy's Kitchen – Indian and South-Asian flavours. John tells me they all expressed interest in coming again in January. We need to encourage the people/patrons to try their products as their continued attendance depends on **sales**. We must also thank Big Bear's Donuts for being willing to travel from Lakes Entrance to cover the absence of OMG Donuts. The result for the weekend is still to be finalised, however there were 62 stallholders who registered for a total of 82 sites. Apparently, some did not attend. Nevertheless, the end result will be sure to be in or above the range of previous months.

The Committee would appreciate the help of members to help us build our focus on craft and produce. If you attend a market elsewhere and see a stall that we do not already have, please speak to the operator and suggest they consider a trip to Drouin every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the Month. Get their contact details and I will follow them up. Our aim is to increase the range of our offerings, particularly for fresh produce.

We do not have a formal meeting before the January Market so please keep some time available for the Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>. It is sure to be another big day.



### *A few (potentially) entertaining items*

